

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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FOR KINSOLVING

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EC, IS, UN

SUBJECT: EC-9 STATEMENT TO UNGA, DECEMBER 9, 1976

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT DELIVERED ON DECEMBER 9, 1976 BY DUTCH AMBASSADOR KAUFMANN, ON BEHALF OF EC-9, TO UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN EXPLANATION OF VOTES ON MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTIONS.

2. BEGIN TEXT: ON BEHALF OF THE NINE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES I WISH TO EXPLAIN THE VOTE OF OUR DELEGATIONS ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE US.

3. IN OUR STATEMENT ON 7 DECEMBER IN THE DEBATE ON THIS AGENDA ITEM, I RECALLED THE FOUR PRINCIPLES WHICH IN OUR VIEW MUST GOVERN A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND EMPHASIZED THAT THEY MUST BE TAKEN AS A WHOLE.

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4. WE HAVE ON MANY OCCASIONS PUT ON RECORD THE FIRM SUPPORT OF THE NINE COUNTRIES FOR SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 (1967) AND 338 (1973) AS PROVIDING THE ESSENTIAL BASIS FOR A JUST AND LASTING SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, ALSO RECOGNIZED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THESE TWO RESOLUTIONS DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE POLITICAL DIMENSION OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION AND HAVE THEREFORE, IN OUR VIEW,

TO BE SUPPLEMENTED TO INCLUDE THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, IN PARTICULAR THEIR RIGHT TO THE EFFECTIVE EXPRESSION OF THEIR NATIONAL IDENTITY, WHICH COULD INVOLVE A TERRITORIAL BASIS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

5. AS REGARDS THE PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, OUR NINE COUNTRIES BELIEVE THAT A WAY SHOULD BE FOUND TO PERMIT THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS CONFERENCE FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. WE CONSIDER THAT THE MODALITIES OF PARTICIPATION SHOULD BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATION AMONG ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED, AND WE HOPE THAT ANY REMAINING OBSTACLES WILL BE OVERCOME.

6. WITH REGARD TO DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L.26, WE REGRET THAT THE BASIC REQUIREMENT WHICH I REFERRED TO ABOVE, NAMELY, THAT THE FOUR BASIC PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE TAKEN AS A WHOLE, HAS NOT BEEN MET, AND THAT THEREFORE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IS UNBALANCED. SOME OF THE MATTERS MENTIONED IN THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION CAN BE EFFECTIVELY DECIDED ONLY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES, AND WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO TRY TO PREEMPT THE OUTCOME OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

7. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE PRINCIPLE OF ALL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE MIDDLE EAST BEING ENABLED TO LIVE IN PEACE. WE REGRET, HOWEVER, THAT THE SPONSORS WERE NOT ABLE TO AGREE TO FOLLOW IN THIS REGARD THE WORDING OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242 (1967), EVEN THOUGH THERE IS AN IMPLICIT REFERENCE TO THAT RESOLUTION IN OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 6.

8. THE IMBALANCE I HAVE JUST MENTIONED IS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE FACT THAT THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION ADDRESSES ITSELF IN ITS REQUEST TO ONE PARTY ONLY. FURTHERMORE, REFERENCE IS MADE TO A NUMBER OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS WHICH WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SUPPORT.

9. FOR ALL THESE REASONS OUR NINE DELEGATIONS ARE NOT ABLE TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L.26.

10. TURNING NOW TO DRAFT RESOLUTION A/31/L.27, OUR DELEGATIONS WILL VOTE IN FAVOR OF IT BECAUSE ITS BASIC PURPOSE-- TO FACILITATE THE EARLY RESUMPTION OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED

NATIONS--IS SHARED BY ALL OF US.

11. WHILE WE AGREE WITH THE URGENCY OF RESUMING THE PEACE CONFERENCE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRECISE DATE FOR THIS IS NOT A MATTER WHICH CAN USEFULLY BE DECIDED HERE AND NOW, BUT CAN ONLY BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATIONS AMONG ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED.

12. WE WOULD FURTHERMORE, WITH REFERENCE TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3, LIKE TO RECALL THE GENERAL RESERVATIONS WE HAVE EXPRESSED IN THE PAST CONCERNING A TENDENCY BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO TAKE ACTION WHICH MAY INFRINGE ON THE PREROGATIVE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL--FOR EXAMPLE, BY ATTEMPTING TO DETERMINE ITS TIME TABLE. HOWEVER, AT THE SAME TIME, THE MODERATE WAY IN WHICH THE SPONSORS OF THIS DRAFT RESOLUTION HAVE APPROACHED THE GENERAL QUESTION IS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN FOR THE FUTURE. END TEXT.
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